



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CONSEIL JUDICIAIRE DE L'EGLISE METHODISTE UNIE
RECHTSHOF DER EVANGELISCH-METHODISTISCHEN KIRCHE
CONSELHO JUDICIAL DA IGREJA METODISTA UNIDA
CONSEJO DE LA JUDICATURA DE LA IGLESIA METODISTA UNIDA



Petition for Declaratory Decision

This form is to be used by the Secretary of the body authorized to petition the Judicial Council for a ruling in the nature of a declaratory decision as to the constitutionality, meaning, application, or effect of (please check one):

- ☒ *The Book of Discipline 2016* or any portion thereof (§ 2610.1)
☐ any act or legislation of a General Conference (§ 2610.1)
☐ any proposed legislation (§ 2609.2)

Name of body authorized to make a Petition (§ 2610.2): California-Pacific Annual Conference
Date of session: 6/17/17 (month/day/year) Location: Redlands, California
Name of Secretary: Rev. Karen Clark Ristine
Address: 1105 Euclid Ave City: Pasadena
State/Province: CA ZIP/Postal Code 91101 Country: United States
Phone: 619 850-7435 Fax: 626 796-7297 E-mail: secretary@calpacumc.org

To be reviewed (indicate paragraph number, title of legislation and/or act where applicable):

Book of Discipline: 161 G

Legislation: _____

Act of General Conference: _____

Signature: Rev. Karen Clark Ristine
Secretary of the Conference/Body

Date: 7/13/2017
(month/day/year)

The following must be attached:

- Text of the written Petition for Declaratory Decision as originally presented
- Minutes of proceedings (relevant portions only)
- List of names and addresses of interested parties, including e-mail
- Other relevant materials (e.g. conference rules, resolutions, policies, reports)

Send electronic copy of this form and all materials in PDF and Microsoft Word format to:
secretaryjudicialcouncil@gmail.com

Mail four (4) sets of hard copies to: Secretary of the Judicial Council, 5556 North Sheridan Road, # 610; Chicago, IL 60640 U.S.A.



Conference Secretary Office

California-Pacific Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. Karen Clark Ristine
Conference Secretary

To: Secretary of the Judicial Council
5556 North Sheridan Road #610
Chicago, IL 60640

Re: Petition for Declaratory Decision

Enclosed please find:

- Petition for Declaratory Decision
- Text of the written Petition as originally presented
- Minutes of the proceedings
- Name and address of interested party.

California-Pacific Conference

Petition for Declaratory Decision

Approved by the Annual Conference on 6/17/17

Text of the Petition for Declaratory Decision as originally presented

The California-Pacific Annual Conference hereby petitions the Judicial Council for a declaratory decision under Para. 2610.2.j: Is the sentence in the Book of Discipline 161.G "...and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching" illegal because it violates the First and Second Restrictive Rules (Para 17 & 18) and in particular the First Restrictive Rule which states that the General Conference shall not "establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine" (Para 17)

From the UM Daily (minutes)

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Plenary 6

Saturday, June 17, 2017

2:00 PM

Bishop Hagiya recognized Mic 2, and Dr. James Dwyer moved for Cal-Pac to request a Declaratory Decision from the Judicial Council to determine the legality of the sentence in the 2016 Book of Discipline ¶161.G, "and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching," because it violates the First and Second Restrictive Rules ¶17-18, and in particular the First Restrictive Rule, which states that "The General Conference shall not ... establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine" (¶17). The motion was seconded.

One-fifth of the body is required to support a request for a Declaratory Decision. The body voted and it was supported. The request will be sent to Judicial Council. Interested party:

Interested Party

Rev. James Dwyer

787 Plymouth Road

Claremont, CA 91711-4249

jamesdwyer@me.com

Submitted as required along with Petition for Declaratory Decision Form,

Rev. Karen Clark Ristine

Conference Secretary

California-Pacific Conference.

related ministry areas to promote specific quota items. **Bishop Hagiya called for a vote and it was supported.**

Bishop Hagiya called for a vote on the 2018 quotas and it was supported.

COSROW Report: Krista McVey presented the COSROW report. In monitoring plenaries and legislative sections, COSROW notes that white men (mostly older) have done the most speaking, followed by white women (mostly older). She also noted that our conference is one of the most diverse in the United States UMC.

Retirement Recognition: Rev. Adiel de Pano and Rev. Paige Eaves recognized and thanked Gail Kendall, who is retiring from her position as Executive Assistant to the Bishop. They presented her with gifts. Gail thanked everyone for their support during her 11-year tenure.

Honoring Our Retired Clergy: Videos for retirees Rev. Holly Reinhart-Marean and Rev. Luat Trong Tran were shown.

Closing Announcements: Rev. Preston Price, III, announced we will reconvene at 2PM. He invited everyone to attend the Ministry Fair. The MFSA dinner has been moved to Orton Hall. Edna Burems gave the closing prayer.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference
Plenary 6
Saturday, June 17, 2017
2:00 PM

Call To Order: Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

Orders of the Day: Rev. Bob Rhodes presented and moved the Orders on the screens. **Bishop Hagiya moved the Orders of the Day, and they were approved.**

RES 17-17 "Wesley Foundation Board of Directors": Rev. Bob Rhodes moved **Res 17-17**. **Bishop Hagiya called for a vote and it was supported.**

Bishop Hagiya recognized Mic 2, and Dr. James Dwyer moved for Cal-Pac to request a Declaratory Decision from the Judicial Council to determine the legality of the sentence in the 2016 Book of Discipline ¶161.G, "and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching," because it violates the First and Second Restrictive Rules ¶17-18, and in particular the First Restrictive Rule, which states that "The General Conference shall not ... establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine" (¶17). The motion was seconded.

One-fifth of the body is required to support a request for a Declaratory Decision. **The body voted and it was supported. The request will be sent to Judicial Council.**

List of Interested Parties in Docket No. 1017-11

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